United Nations A/C.4/66/1

General Assembly

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21 September 2011

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Sixty-sixth session
Special Political and Decolonization Committee (Fourth Committee)

Allocation of agenda items to the Special Political and Decolonization Committee (Fourth Committee)

Letter dated 16 September 2011 from the President of the General Assembly to the Chair of the Special Political and Decolonization Committee (Fourth Committee)

I have the honour to inform you of the decisions taken by the General Assembly at the 2nd plenary meeting of its sixty-sixth session, on 16 September 2011, pertaining to the allocation of items to the Special Political and Decolonization Committee (Fourth Committee).

I wish to draw your attention to the relevant parts of sections III and IV of the report of the General Committee (A/66/250) concerning the agenda of the Main Committees.

May I also draw your attention to the recommendations on the organization of the session contained in section II of the same report. Those recommendations were also approved by the General Assembly at its 2nd plenary meeting.

(*Signed*) Nassir Abdulaziz **Al-Nasser**

11-50755 (E) 230911

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Allocation of items to the Special Political and Decolonization Committee (Fourth Committee)

1. Election of the officers of the Main Committees [item 5].

B. Maintenance of international peace and security

2. Assistance in mine action [item 49].
3. Effects of atomic radiation [item 50].
4. International cooperation in the peaceful uses of outer space [item 51].
5. United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East [item 52].
6. Report of the Special Committee to Investigate Israeli Practices Affecting the Human Rights of the Palestinian People and Other Arabs of the Occupied Territories [item 53].
7. Comprehensive review of the whole question of peacekeeping operations in all their aspects [item 54].
8. Questions relating to information [item 55].
9. Information from Non-Self-Governing Territories transmitted under Article 73*e* of the Charter of the United Nations [item 56].
10. Economic and other activities which affect the interests of the peoples of the Non-Self-Governing Territories [item 57].
11. Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples by the specialized agencies and the international institutions associated with the United Nations [item 58].
12. Offers by Member States of study and training facilities for inhabitants of Non-Self-Governing Territories [item 59].
13. Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples [item 60].

I. Organizational, administrative and other matters

14. Revitalization of the work of the General Assembly [item 121].
15. Programme planning [item 135].

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General Assembly

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Sixty-sixth session
Special Political and Decolonization Committee (Fourth Committee)
Agenda item 60
Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples

Question of Gibraltar

Request for hearing

The Chair of the Fourth Committee has received a request to petition the Committee on the question of Gibraltar as listed below.*

Name and title	*Organization*	*Date request received*
Fabian Picardo, Leader of the Opposition	Gibraltar Socialist Labour Party	23 September 2011

* Circulated in accordance with a decision taken by the Committee at its 1st meeting, on 29 September 2011. The original request is on file with the Secretariat and is available for review.

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Sixty-sixth session
Special Political and Decolonization Committee (Fourth Committee)
Agenda item 60
Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples

Question of Gibraltar

Request for hearing

The Chair of the Fourth Committee received one request to petition the Committee on the question of Gibraltar and one petitioner was heard as listed below.

Name and title	*Organization*	*Date request received*	*Meeting/Date petitioner heard*
Fabian Picardo, Leader of the Opposition	Gibraltar Socialist Labour Party	23 September 2011	3rd/4 October 2011

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General Assembly

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Special Political and Decolonization Committee (Fourth Committee)
Agenda item 60
Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples

Question of Guam

Request for hearing

The Chair of the Fourth Committee has received a request to petition the Committee on the question of Guam as listed below.*

Name and title	*Organization*	*Date request received*
Michael A. Tuncap		20 September 2011
Edward Alvarez, Executive Director	Commission on Decolonization	23 September 2011
Judith T. Won-Pat, Speaker	Guam Legislature	23 September 2011

* Circulated in accordance with a decision taken by the Committee at its 1st meeting, on 29 September 2011. The original request is on file with the Secretariat and is available for review.

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Special Political and Decolonization Committee (Fourth Committee)
Agenda item 60
Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples

Question of Guam

Request for hearing

The Chair of the Fourth Committee received three requests to petition the Committee on the question of Guam and two petitioners were heard as listed below.

Name and title	*Organization*	*Date request received*	*Meeting/Date petitioner heard*
Michael A. Tuncap	—	20 September 2011	Did not address the Committee
Edward Alvarez, Executive Director	Commission on Decolonization	23 September 2011	3rd/4 October 2011
Judith T. Won-Pat, Speaker	Guam Legislature	23 September 2011	3rd/4 October 2011

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Sixty-sixth session
Special Political and Decolonization Committee (Fourth Committee)
Agenda item 60
Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples

Question of Turks and Caicos

Request for hearing

The Chair of the Fourth Committee has received a request to petition the Committee on the question of Turks and Caicos as listed below.*

Name and title	*Organization*	*Date request received*
Alpha Gibbs	Turks and Caicos Forum	23 September 2011
E. Conrad Howell (Rev.)	Turks and Caicos National Agenda	23 September 2011

* Circulated in accordance with a decision taken by the Committee at its 1st meeting, on 29 September 2011. The original request is on file with the Secretariat and is available for review.

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Special Political and Decolonization Committee (Fourth Committee)
Agenda item 60
Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples

Question of Turks and Caicos

Request for hearing

The Chair of the Fourth Committee received two requests to petition the Committee on the question of Turks and Caicos and one petitioner was heard as listed below.

Name and title	*Organization*	*Date request received*	*Meeting/Date petitioner heard*
Alpha Gibbs	Turks and Caicos Forum	23 September 2011	3rd/4 October 2011
E. Conrad Howell (Rev.)	Turks and Caicos National Agenda	23 September 2011	Did not address the Committee

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Special Political and Decolonization Committee (Fourth Committee)
Agenda item 60
Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples

Question of the United States Virgin Islands

Request for hearing

The Chair of the Fourth Committee has received a request to petition the Committee on the question of the United States Virgin Islands as listed below.*

Name	*Date request received*
Edward L. Browne	16 September 2011

* Circulated in accordance with a decision taken by the Committee at its 1st meeting, on 29 September 2011. The original request is on file with the Secretariat and is available for review.

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Special Political and Decolonization Committee (Fourth Committee)
Agenda item 60
Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples

Question of the United States Virgin Islands

Request for hearing

The Chair of the Fourth Committee received one request to petition the Committee on the question of the United States Virgin Islands and one petitioner was heard as listed below.

Name	*Date request received*	*Meeting/Date petitioner heard*
Edward L. Browne	16 September 2011	3rd/4 October 2011

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29 September 2011

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Sixty-sixth session
Special Political and Decolonization Committee (Fourth Committee)
Agenda item 60
Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples

Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples

Request for hearing

The Chair of the Fourth Committee has received a request to petition the Committee on agenda item 60 as listed below.*

Name and title	*Date request received*
Carlyle G. Corbin, Jr. International Adviser on Governance and International Diplomacy	23 September 2011

* Circulated in accordance with a decision taken by the Committee at its 1st meeting, on 29 September 2011. The original request is on file with the Secretariat and is available for review.

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Special Political and Decolonization Committee (Fourth Committee)
Agenda item 60
Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples

Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples

Request for hearing

The Chair of the Fourth Committee received one request to petition the Committee on agenda item 60 and one petitioner was heard as listed below.

Name and title	*Date request received*	*Meeting/Date petitioner heard*
Carlyle G. Corbin, Jr. International Adviser on Governance and International Diplomacy	23 September 2011	3rd/4 October 2011

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Sixty-sixth session
Special Political and Decolonization Committee (Fourth Committee)
Agenda item 69
Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples

Question of Western Sahara

Requests for hearing

The Chair of the Fourth Committee has received 66 requests to petition the Committee on the question of Western Sahara as listed below.*

Name and title	*Organization*	*Date request received*
Gale Sherrill, Director	The Glenpool Outreach Center at the Landing	3 August 2011
Nancy Huff, President	Teach the Children International	11 August 2011
Amy Karimi, President	The Borrowed Voice	23 August 2011
Janet Lenz, Director of Saharawi Programs	Not Forgotten International	23 August 2011
Jean Abboud, Monseigneur		6 September 2011
Nouria Hafsi, Secretary-General	Union nationale des femmes algériennes	7 September 2011
Mhand Berkouk, Director	Centre de recherche stratégique et sécuritaire	7 September 2011
Rabah Lachouri, President	Ensemble pour l'avenir	7 September 2011
Said Ayachi, Vice-President	Comité national algérien de solidarité avec le peuple sahraoui	7 September 2011
Latifa Aït-Baala, Chairwoman	Action internationale femmes	8 September 2011
Zitouni née Toumi, President	Commission droit humanitaire et droit de l'enfant	12 September 2011

* Circulated in accordance with a decision taken by the Committee at its 1st meeting, on 29 September 2011. The original requests are on file with the Secretariat and are available for review.

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Name and title	*Organization*	*Date request received*
Pedro Pinto Leite, Secretary-General	International Platform of Jurists for East Timor	12 September 2011
Fatma Seida	Association sud pour la protection de l'enfance	14 September 2011
Salek Rahal, Journaliste		14 September 2011
Fatima El Aadli, Membre du Conseil provincial d'Essmara		14 September 2011
Mohammed Cheikh Ismaili, Acteur associatif à Essmara		14 September 2011
M'Barka Bouaida, Parliamentary deputy		14 September 2011
Masgoula Baamar	Conseil royal consultatif des affaires sahariennes	14 September 2011
Fala Boussola, Elue à la Chambre des représentants marocaine		14 September 2011
Baba Miyara, Président	Ligue des défenseurs des droits de l'homme au Sahara	14 September 2011
Sidi Ahmed Akmache, Cheikh de tribu (Laayoune)		14 September 2011
Mimouna Sayed, Membre de la commune rurale de Tichla		15 September 2011
Bellali Noureddine	Association Al Mostakbal	15 September 2011
Fernando Rosas-Moscoso, Historian, University professor		15 September 2011
Román López-Villicaña, Professor		15 September 2011
Ahmed Boukhari	Polisario Front	15 September 2011
Sidi Brahim Joumani	Association Sahara pour la promotion des droits humains	16 September 2011
Hassan Omar Hassan, Commissioner	Kenya National Commission on Human Rights	16 September 2011
Teguh Santosa	Indonesia Islam University	16 September 2011
Malik Hussein Hamid, Professor of Law and Economics		19 September 2011
Tim Kustusch, International Director	Organization for Statehood and Freedom	19 September 2011
Eva Brems, Deputée federale belge		19 September 2011
Charles Wilson, Coordinating Director	International Sahrawi Friendship Association	19 September 2011
Stefan Simanowitz		19 September 2011
Joseph Dubié, Sénateur honoraire		19 September 2011
Fernando Oliván López		19 September 2011
Anna Maria Stame Cervone, President	Christian Democratic Women International	19 September 2011
David Eriksson		19 September 2011
Erik Jensen		19 September 2011

Name and title	*Organization*	*Date request received*
Pedro Brieger		19 September 2011
Sydney S. Assor	Surrey Three Faiths Forum	19 September 2011
Jane Bahaijoub, Chairperson	Family Protection	20 September 2011
Cynthia Basinet		20 September 2011
Tanya Warburg, Director	Freedom For All	20 September 2011
Rafael Esparza Machin	University of Las Palmas de Gran Canaria	20 September 2011
Zahra Chagaf	Sahara for Peace	20 September 2011
Antonio López-Ortiz, Secretary	Federación Estatal de Instituciones Solidarias con el Pueblo Saharaui	20 September 2011
Donovan Williams	Families in Union	20 September 2011
Robert Griffin		20 September 2011
Ulysses S. Smith	Bar Association of the City of New York	20 September 2011
Lord Francis Newall	International Committee for Tindouf Prisoners	20 September 2011
Suzanne Scholte, President	Defense Forum Foundation	21 September 2011
Theodorakidis Panagiotis		21 September 2011
Juan José Ibarretxe Markuartu, President	Coordinadora Estatal de Associaciones Solidarias con el Sahara	21 September 2011
Henri-Louis Vedié		22 September 2011
Shoji Matsumoto	Sapporo Gakuin University	22 September 2011
José Revert Calabuig	Asociación Internacional de Juristas por el Sáhara Occidental	22 September 2011
Jesús Loza Aguirre, President	Los Intergrupos Paz y Libertad para el Sáhara Occidental de los Parlamentos, Autonómicos de España	22 September 2011
Mohamed Ziyad Al Jabari, President	Moroccan-Palestinian Friendship Association	23 September 2011
Ugo Mazza		23 September 2011
Stefano Vaccari, Councillor	Province of Modena, Italy	23 September 2011
Anthony Jean	Association des amis de la Republique arabe du Sahara démocratique	23 September 2011
Chema Gill, Journalist	Regional Security	23 September 2011
Javier Bardem		23 September 2011
Álvaro Longoria		23 September 2011
Jeffrey J. Smith	Western Sahara Resource Watch	23 September 2011

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Special Political and Decolonization Committee (Fourth Committee)
Agenda item 60
Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples

Question of Western Sahara

Requests for hearing

The Chair of the Fourth Committee received 66 requests to petition the Committee on the question of Western Sahara and 59 were heard as listed below.

Name and title	*Organization*	*Date request received*	*Meeting/Date petitioner heard*
Gale Sherrill, Director	The Glenpool Outreach Center at the Landing	3 August 2011	3rd/4 October 2011
Nancy Huff, President	Teach the Children International	11 August 2011	3rd/4 October 2011
Amy Karimi, President	The Borrowed Voice	23 August 2011	3rd/4 October 2011
Janet Lenz, Director of Saharawi Programs	Not Forgotten International	23 August 2011	4th/5 October 2011
Jean Abboud, Monseigneur		6 September 2011	5th/6 October 2011
Nouria Hafsi, Secretary-General	Union nationale des femmes algériennes	7 September 2011	3rd/4 October 2011
Mhand Berkouk, Director	Centre de recherche stratégique et sécuritaire	7 September 2011	Did not address the Committee
Rabah Lachouri, President	Ensemble pour l'avenir	7 September 2011	Did not address the Committee

11-55357 (E) 201011

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Name and title	*Organization*	*Date request received*	*Meeting/Date petitioner heard*
Said Ayachi, Vice-President	Comité national algérien de solidarité avec le peuple sahraoui	7 September 2011	3rd/4 October 2011
Latifa Aït-Baala, Chairwoman	Action internationale femmes	8 September 2011	3rd/4 October 2011
Zitouni née Toumi, President	Commission droit humanitaire et droit de l'enfant	12 September 2011	Did not address the Committee
Pedro Pinto Leite, Secretary-General	International Platform of Jurists for East Timor	12 September 2011	3rd/4 October 2011
Fatma Seida	Association sud pour la protection de l'enfance	14 September 2011	3rd/4 October 2011
Salek Rahal, Journaliste		14 September 2011	4th/5 October 2011
Fatima El Aadli, Membre du Conseil provincial d'Essmara		14 September 2011	3rd/4 October 2011
Mohammed Cheikh Ismaaili, Acteur associatif à Essmara		14 September 2011	3rd/4 October 2011
M'Barka Bouaida, Parliamentary deputy		14 September 2011	3rd/4 October 2011
Masgoula Baamar	Conseil royal consultatif des affaires sahariennes	14 September 2011	3rd/4 October 2011
Fala Boussola, Elue à la Chambre des représentants marocaine		14 September 2011	4th/5 October 2011
Baba Ahl Mayara, Président	Ligue des défenseurs des droits de l'homme au Sahara	14 September 2011	4th/5 October 2011
Sidi Ahmed Akmach, Cheikh de tribu (Laayoune)		14 September 2011	4th/5 October 2011
Maimouna Essayed, Membre de la commune rurale de Tichla		15 September 2011	4th/5 October 2011
Bellali Noureddine	Association Al Massira Wa Al Mostaghbal	15 September 2011	5th/6 October 2011

Name and title	*Organization*	*Date request received*	*Meeting/Date petitioner heard*
Fernando Rosas-Moscoso, Historian, University professor		15 September 2011	Did not address the Committee
Román López-Villicaña, Professor		15 September 2011	4th/5 October 2011
Ahmed Boukhari	Polisario Front	15 September 2011	5th/6 October 2011
Sidi Brahim El Joumani	Association Sahara pour la promotion des droits humains	16 September 2011	4th/5 October 2011
Hassan Omar Hassan, Commissioner	Kenya National Commission on Human Rights	16 September 2011	5th/6 October 2011
Teguh Santosa	Indonesia Islam University	16 September 2011	4th/5 October 2011
Malik Hussein Hamid, Professor of Law and Economics		19 September 2011	Did not address the Committee
Tim Kustusch, International Director	Organization for Statehood and Freedom	19 September 2011	Did not address the Committee
Eva Brems, Deputée federale belge		19 September 2011	4th/5 October 2011
Charles Wilson, Coordinating Director	International Sahrawi Friendship Association	19 September 2011	4th/5 October 2011
Stefan Simanowitz	All Party Parliamentary Group on Western Sahara	19 September 2011	5th/6 October 2011
Joseph Dubié, Sénateur honoraire	Comité belge de soutien au peuple Sahraoui	19 September 2011	4th/5 October 2011
Fernando Oliván López		19 September 2011	4th/5 October 2011
Anna Maria Stame Cervone, President	Christian Democratic Women International	19 September 2011	4th/5 October 2011
David Eriksson	Security and Human Development	19 September 2011	4th/5 October 2011
Erik Jensen		19 September 2011	4th/5 October 2011
Pedro Brieger		19 September 2011	4th/5 October 2011
Sydney S. Assor	Surrey Three Faiths Forum	19 September 2011	4th/5 October 2011

Name and title	*Organization*	*Date request received*	*Meeting/Date petitioner heard*
Jane Bahaijoub, Chairperson	Family Protection	20 September 2011	4th/5 October 2011
Cynthia Basinet		20 September 2011	4th/5 October 2011
Tanya Warburg, Director	Freedom For All	20 September 2011	4th/5 October 2011
Rafael Esparza Machín	University of Las Palmas de Gran Canaria	20 September 2011	4th/5 October 2011
Zahra Chagaf	Sahara for Peace	20 September 2011	4th/5 October 2011
Antonio López-Ortiz, Secretary	Federación Estatal de Instituciones Solidarias con el Pueblo Saharaui	20 September 2011	4th/5 October 2011
Donovan Williams	Families in Union	20 September 2011	4th/5 October 2011
Robert Griffin		20 September 2011	4th/5 October 2011
Ulysses S. Smith	Bar Association of the City of New York	20 September 2011	5th/6 October 2011
Lord Francis Newall	International Committee for Tindouf Prisoners	20 September 2011	3rd/4 October 2011
Suzanne Scholte, President	Defense Forum Foundation	21 September 2011	Did not address the Committee
Panagiotis Theodorakidis		21 September 2011	4th/5 October 2011
Juan José Ibarretxe Markuartu, President	Coordinadora Estatal de Associaciones Solidarias con el Sahara	21 September 2011	4th/5 October 2011
Henri-Louis Vedié		22 September 2011	3rd/4 October 2011
Shoji Matsumoto	Sapporo Gakuin University	22 September 2011	4th/5 October 2011
José Revert Calabuig	Asociación Internacional de Juristas por el Sáhara Occidental	22 September 2011	4th/5 October 2011
Jesús Loza Aguirre, President	Los Intergrupos Paz y Libertad para el Sáhara Occidental de los Parlamentos, Autonómicos de España	22 September 2011	5th/6 October 2011
Mohamed Ziyad Al Jabari, President	Moroccan-Palestinian Friendship Association	23 September 2011	4th/5 October 2011
Ugo Mazza		23 September 2011	4th/5 October 2011

Name and title	*Organization*	*Date request received*	*Meeting/Date petitioner heard*
Stefano Vaccari, Councillor	Modena Province Council	23 September 2011	5th/6 October 2011
Anthony Jean	Association des amis de la République arabe du Sahara démocratique	23 September 2011	5th/6 October 2011
José Maria Garre Gil, Journalist	Regional Security	23 September 2011	3rd/4 October 2011
Javier Bardem		23 September 2011	3rd/4 October 2011
Álvaro Longoria		23 September 2011	4th/5 October 2011
Jeffrey J. Smith	Western Sahara Resource Watch	23 September 2011	5th/6 October 2011

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General Assembly

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Special Political and Decolonization Committee (Fourth Committee)
Agenda item 50
Effects of atomic radiation

Letter dated 10 October 2011 from the Secretary-General addressed to the President of the General Assembly

At the conclusion of the high-level meeting on nuclear safety and security, held in New York on 22 September 2011, I circulated a summary of the discussion that reflected my understanding, as convener and Chair of the high-level meeting, of the views expressed. I also indicated that I would present the Chair's summary to the President of the General Assembly.

I am pleased to transmit to you the Chair's summary of the high-level meeting (see annex) and should be grateful if you would bring it to the attention of the members of the General Assembly. The document could provide a basis for consideration of this matter in the Fourth Committee and in plenary, as deemed necessary.

I am grateful for your continued personal support to this important issue.

(*Signed*) **BAN** Ki-moon
Secretary-General

11-54248 (E) 181011

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Annex

High-level meeting on nuclear safety and security 22 September 2011, New York

Chair's summary

The high-level meeting was held on 22 September 2011, from 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. A total of 69 delegates spoke, including 8 Heads of State or Government, 30 ministers, and representatives of intergovernmental organizations, international organizations, specialized agencies and related organizations, including the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA). The Secretary-General opened the meeting and invited the President of the General Assembly and the Director General of IAEA, as well as the Heads of State or Government of Brazil, France, Japan, Kazakhstan, the Republic of Korea and Ukraine, to address the meeting. At the end of the meeting, the Secretary-General, as convener and Chair of the high-level meeting, circulated the following summary of the discussion which reflected his understanding of the views expressed.

1. The high-level meeting focused on strengthening nuclear safety and security, especially in the light of the accident at the Fukushima Daiichi nuclear power station, with a view to building political support and momentum at the highest level for the ongoing and planned efforts of the international community. In this connection, the initiative of the Secretary-General in convening the high-level meeting and the IAEA Ministerial Conference on Nuclear Safety and its outcome were welcomed. Participants expressed appreciation for the United Nations system-wide study on the implications of the accident at the Fukushima Daiichi nuclear power plant. Participants expressed gratitude for the contribution of the United Nations entities, specialized agencies and related organizations that took part in the study.

2. The high-level parallel interactive sessions addressed the topic of "Strengthening nuclear safety and nuclear disaster risk preparedness". The sessions were co-chaired at the ministerial level by Brazil, France, Japan and the Republic of Korea. During the high-level segment of the interactive sessions, the Heads of State or Government of Hungary and Lithuania addressed the meeting. Ministers and deputy ministers from Germany, Indonesia, the Russian Federation, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and the United States of America participated as discussants at the interactive sessions.

Implications of the accident at the Fukushima Daiichi nuclear power station

3. Participants expressed solidarity with the people and Government of Japan following the earthquake and tsunami on 11 March, which gave rise to the accident at the Fukushima Daiichi nuclear power station. It was noted that the Fukushima accident has given rise to concerns regarding the adequacy of international safety standards and conventions, the global emergency preparedness and response system, and the effectiveness of national regulatory bodies. These concerns have highlighted the need to further improve the nuclear safety regime and the role of IAEA.

4. Participants affirmed the right of States to choose their own energy mix. It was recognized that some States consider nuclear power to be a viable option in meeting their energy needs, while other States have decided not to use, to phase out or to

reconsider the development of nuclear power. Some participants emphasized the importance of renewable energy and conservation as alternative energy policies.

5. Participants noted that public confidence in nuclear power has been affected by the Fukushima accident. In particular, participants noted public concerns regarding the impact of radiation on human health. Towards ensuring public trust, participants acknowledged the need to meet the high level of public expectation for maximum efforts to improve nuclear safety and for full transparency and openness in all aspects of nuclear energy and the impact of radiation on human health.

6. Participants recognized that major nuclear accidents may have consequences that transcend national boundaries, including radiological effects on people, agriculture and the environment, as well as economic and development impacts, and that such consequences require an international approach.

Strengthening nuclear safety

Promoting the highest levels of nuclear safety

7. Participants affirmed that the responsibility for ensuring the application of the highest standards of nuclear safety and for providing a timely, transparent and adequate response to nuclear emergencies, including addressing vulnerabilities revealed by accidents, lies with each State and operating organization. Participants further affirmed that safety is a key element for the peaceful uses of nuclear energy. Participants emphasized the commitment of all States to apply the highest standards of safety to all existing and planned nuclear installations. Participants underscored the importance of independent regulatory frameworks for ensuring nuclear safety.

8. Participants noted with appreciation the convening by the IAEA Director General of the Ministerial Conference on Nuclear Safety and welcomed its outcome: the ministerial declaration and the IAEA Action Plan on Nuclear Safety adopted by the IAEA Board of Governors and endorsed by the General Conference. Participants hoped that the Action Plan would contribute to strengthening international nuclear safety and looked forward to its full implementation. Participants affirmed the key, statutory role of IAEA in the development of nuclear safety standards and welcomed the intention of the Agency to review and revise the relevant IAEA safety standards as necessary, as provided for by the Action Plan. All States were urged to join and effectively implement all relevant conventions[1] and to apply all relevant international standards and guidelines.

9. Participants welcomed the steps taken so far by the international community to discuss the lessons learned from the Fukushima accident and to strengthen nuclear safety and emergency response and preparedness, including the outcomes of the third session of the Global Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction, the Group of Eight (G-8) summit in Deauville, the ministerial seminar on nuclear safety and the related forum on the Fukushima accident held in Paris.

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[1] These include: Convention on Early Notification of a Nuclear Accident; Convention on Assistance in the Case of a Nuclear Accident or Radiological Emergency; Convention on Nuclear Safety; Joint Convention on the Safety of Spent Fuel Management and on the Safety of Radioactive Waste Management; and Convention on the Physical Protection of Nuclear Material.

10. In this connection, Japan reiterated its decision to host a follow-up high-level meeting on nuclear safety in the second half of 2012, in cooperation with IAEA. Participants expressed support for further expert meetings to be organized by IAEA, to analyse and learn the lessons from the Fukushima accident.

11. Participants also acknowledged the steps taken by Governments, including reviews of their nuclear safety standards and the adequacy of nuclear regulatory frameworks, as well as assessments of the safety of their planned and existing nuclear installations. States that have not done so were urged to promptly undertake a national assessment of the design of nuclear power plants against site specific extreme natural hazards, including the possible impact of multiple events, and to implement the necessary corrective action in a timely manner.

12. Participants expressed support for enhancing the transparency and effectiveness of communication among operators, regulators and relevant international organizations and for strengthening the role of IAEA in this regard. Participants emphasized the importance of transparency and openness and the dissemination of timely, clear and easily understandable information to the public, utilizing available expertise and monitoring techniques of the relevant international organizations. Participants recognized that public concerns about the effects of radiation could be best addressed through objective, scientifically based assessments, transparency, and accurate and thorough public reporting. Participants underscored the importance of increased cooperation between the relevant international organizations.

Strengthening the international framework for nuclear safety

13. Participants expressed support for the strengthening and review of the international nuclear safety framework, including enhancing implementation of existing instruments and consideration of proposals made to amend specific conventions. They welcomed the decision of the Contracting parties of the Convention on Nuclear Safety to convene an extraordinary meeting in 2012 on the accident at the Fukushima Daiichi nuclear power station. Participants affirmed the central role of IAEA in promoting international cooperation and in coordinating international efforts to strengthen global nuclear safety, in providing expertise and advice in this field, and in promoting nuclear safety culture worldwide.

14. Participants welcomed the efforts by IAEA to develop a standard methodology for the above-mentioned hazard assessments and noted the benefit of impartial international peer review of such assessments. Participants expressed support for strengthening existing IAEA peer reviews of nuclear regulatory effectiveness, the operational safety, design safety and emergency preparedness and response. Some participants wished to see these peer reviews have a more mandatory nature.

15. Some participants emphasized the necessity of a global nuclear liability regime that addresses the concerns of all States that might be affected by a nuclear accident with a view to providing appropriate compensation for nuclear damage.

Nuclear safety and security

16. Participants recognized that the Fukushima accident also has implications for nuclear security. Many participants recognized the increased synergy between nuclear safety and nuclear security, and acknowledged the importance of a coordinated approach to nuclear safety and security, pursued within the framework

of IAEA, and as addressed in the IAEA safety standards and security guidance. Some participants stressed that nuclear security and nuclear safety may have different causes, which may require different responses. It was also emphasized that nuclear safety cannot be dealt with in isolation of nuclear security, non-proliferation and disarmament, and that nuclear disarmament strengthens nuclear safety and security.

17. Participants recognized that there are several common characteristics in incidents arising from the unauthorized acquisition, use, transport or storage of nuclear materials or attacks on nuclear installations and nuclear accidents, and that both types of incidents may have similar consequences in terms of radioactive releases. Participants expressed heightened interest in addressing the nexus between nuclear safety and security, and to take account of the lessons learned from the Fukushima accident relating to the potential vulnerabilities of nuclear power plants.

18. In this regard, participants took note of their recent accessions to the international conventions dealing with nuclear safety and security.

19. Some participants noted that matters pertaining to nuclear security had been addressed in a number of forums, including the Nuclear Security Summit, the G-8 Global Partnership and the Global Initiative to Combat Nuclear Terrorism. The key role of IAEA in promoting international cooperation to strengthen nuclear security was emphasized, as was the importance of ensuring that IAEA has the resources needed to perform this role.

20. In this connection, some participants expressed the hope that the Nuclear Security Summit, to be held in Seoul in March 2012, would reinforce global efforts to enhance nuclear security. Furthermore, participants expressed support for the efforts of the Republic of Korea to address the synergy between nuclear security and nuclear safety at the Seoul Nuclear Security Summit.

Enhancing emergency preparedness and response

21. All States were urged to conduct prompt national reviews of their emergency preparedness and response arrangements and capabilities, with the IAEA secretariat providing support and assistance as requested. A number of participants emphasized the importance of universal implementation of the relevant IAEA standards and response at the national level as a key to improving preparedness and response. In this regard, IAEA should review and revise, as necessary, the IAEA safety standards and continuously upgrade standards, guidance and practical tools in the area of emergency preparedness and response. Participants underlined that capacity-building programmes should include education and training and exercises at the national, regional and international levels, and that such programmes should cover all the nuclear safety-related areas, including emergency preparedness and response. An initiative was proposed to create an international response force attached to IAEA, in addition to the creation of a training centre to respond to nuclear accidents.

22. Participants underlined the need to review and strengthen the international emergency preparedness and response framework, and to strengthen the assistance mechanisms to ensure that necessary assistance is made available promptly and to consider enhancing and fully utilizing the IAEA Response and Assistance Network (RANET), including expanding its rapid response capabilities.

23. It was stressed that effective local, national, regional and international preparedness and response capabilities and arrangements are essential to minimize the impacts of nuclear and radiological incidents and emergencies. In this regard, participants highlighted the importance of integrated planning for preparedness and response and that such capabilities should be improved.

24. Some participants underscored the need to strengthen, within existing mechanisms, the link between the international system of response to nuclear and radiological incidents and emergencies and the international humanitarian coordination system and contingency planning and preparedness.

25. Some participants, including specialized agencies and international organizations, highlighted the need to enhance the information exchange of environmental radioactivity monitoring data in nuclear and radiological incidents.

26. Participants expressed support for a number of additional measures, including promoting emergency preparedness at all levels; ensuring greater cohesion between national and international emergency response efforts, including through the development of training at the regional and international levels, strengthening regional capabilities; and enhancing the role of IAEA, including through analysis of emergency situations and prognosis of possible scenarios based on evidence, scientific knowledge and the capabilities of States, and by conducting, in case of a nuclear emergency and with the prior consent of the State concerned, timely fact-finding missions and making the results publicly available.

27. Taking into consideration the points raised during the high-level meeting, the Secretary-General suggested the following actions:

(a) The Secretary-General will forward the present summary to the General Assembly for consideration, as appropriate, by the Fourth Committee and the plenary, as well as to the 2012 Seoul Nuclear Security Summit and the Preparatory Committee for the 2015 Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons (NPT);

(b) In order to facilitate a full assessment of the levels of exposure and radiation risks attributable to the Fukushima accident by the United Nations Scientific Committee on the Effects of Atomic Radiation (UNSCEAR), the General Assembly should ensure that the Committee has all the necessary capacity and resources to better undertake its work;

(c) Given that the Final Document of the 2010 NPT Review Conference recognized the need for continuing international efforts to address the safety and security issues associated with nuclear energy, the Preparatory Committee for the 2015 NPT Review Conference should consider allocating specific time to discuss nuclear safety and security;

(d) In view of the efforts by the Secretary-General and the IAEA Director General in promoting greater participation in the international instruments on nuclear safety and nuclear security, the Secretary-General urges all States to become party to and effectively implement relevant international instruments. In particular, the Secretary-General reiterates his invitation to States that are not yet parties to the International Convention for the Suppression of Acts of Nuclear Terrorism to become party to this important treaty. The Secretary-General also calls upon the States parties to the Convention to consider ways to promote ratification and

implementation of the Convention in 2012, marking the fifth year of its entry into force. This matter can be further discussed at the Nuclear Security Summit to be held in Seoul in 2012;

(e) In the light of the intersection between nuclear energy, climate change and sustainable development, the Secretary-General recommends that the preparatory process for the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development in 2012 consider addressing these issues, as appropriate, in its outcome document. It should also consider ways of giving these issues attention in the preparatory activities of the Conference;

(f) Given the need for establishing a closer link between the nuclear response system and the humanitarian coordination system in case of nuclear accidents, the Secretary-General will ask the Emergency Relief Coordinator and Chair of the Inter-Agency Standing Committee to study ways to enhance the capacity of the organizations of the Inter-Agency Standing Committee in this regard. The result of the study will be announced at the appropriate forums;

(g) Recalling the work of the G-8 Nuclear Safety and Security Group (NSSG), including the launch of the International Initiative on 3S-Based Nuclear Energy Infrastructure, at the 2008 G-8 Hokkaido Toyako Summit, to raise awareness and improve safeguards, safety and security in the context of the peaceful use of nuclear energy, and also recalling the G-8 summit in Deauville and the ministerial seminar on nuclear safety, the Secretary-General encourages the G-8 to further develop this initiative taking into account the issues raised by the Fukushima accident.